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POLYMERIC HEMOGLOBIN MUTANTS

Abstract of the Disclosure

Human β -globin mutant polypeptides comprise the amino acid sequence of normal human β -globin modified by (i) the substitution or deletion of Cys at positions 93 and 112, and (ii) the substitution of a Cys for a non-Cys amino acid at one other position in the polypeptide, preferably Ser at position 9. Modified human hemo globins containing this or other β -globin mutations, and/or an α -globin mutation, are provided, as well as polymers of such modified hemoglobins. Nucleic acids, vectors and transformed host cells for producing the β -globin mutants are provided.